

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-11 cancelled.

12. (New) Tail-lift for a vehicle, comprising a lifting mechanism for lifting and lowering a platform, and guiding rails in which the lifting mechanism is suspended with one vertical carriage each, and can be slidably displaced between a working position located behind the vehicle and a traveling position located below the vehicle, wherein each carriage has a front guiding element with an upper sliding member and a rear guiding element with a lower sliding member, wherein the front guiding element is attached from above onto the carriage and is arrested on the carriage at right angles to the direction of attachment, and/or the rear guiding element is attached from below onto the carriage in an opening of the carriage and is arrested on the carriage at right angles to the direction of attachment.

13. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the front guiding element is inserted into a recess of the carriage which opens to the top.

14. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the front guiding element is guided in the recess of the carriage such that it can be vertically displaced and is disposed to be tiltable.

15. Tail-lift according to claim 14, wherein an abutment surface of the carriage, which cooperates with the sliding member of the front guiding element, is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

16. Tail-lift according to claim 13, wherein the front guiding element is guided in the recess of the carriage such that it can be vertically displaced and is disposed to be tiltable.

17. Tail-lift according to claim 16, wherein an abutment surface of the carriage, which cooperates with the sliding member of the front guiding element, is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

18. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the rear guiding element is guided in the recess of the carriage such that it can be vertically displaced, and is disposed to be tiltable.

19. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein an abutment surface of the carriage which cooperates with the sliding member of the rear guiding element is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

20. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the front and/or rear guiding element projects beyond both sides of the carriage.

21. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the sliding member of the front and/or rear guiding element has

a U-shaped cross-section, viewed in the guiding direction of the carriage.

22. Tail-lift according to claim 21, wherein the front sliding member carrier and/or the rear sliding member carrier have a U-shaped cross-section, viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage, and the sliding member carrier and its sliding member, being mutually rotated by  $90^\circ$ , positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces.

23. Tail-lift according to claim 12, wherein the front and/or rear guiding element comprise(s) a sliding member carrier on which the sliding member is held.

24. Tail-lift according to claim 23, wherein the front sliding member carrier and/or the rear sliding member carrier have a U-shaped cross-section, viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage, and the sliding member carrier and its sliding member, being mutually rotated by  $90^\circ$ , positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces.

25. Tail-lift according to claim 23, wherein the two sliding member carriers and/or their sliding members each have the same design.

26. Tail-lift according to claim 13, wherein the front guiding element is guided in the recess of the carriage such that it can be vertically displaced and is disposed to be tiltable, wherein the rear guiding element is guided in the recess of the carriage such that it can be

vertically displaced, and is disposed to be tiltable, wherein an abutment surface of the carriage which cooperates with the sliding member of the rear guiding element is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage, wherein the front and/or rear guiding element projects beyond both sides of the carriage, wherein the sliding member of the front and/or rear guiding element has a U-shaped cross-section, viewed in the guiding direction of the carriage, and wherein the front and/or rear guiding element comprise(s) a sliding member carrier on which the sliding member is held.

27. Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein an abutment surface of the carriage, which cooperates with the sliding member of the front guiding element, is convexly curved into the recess of the carriage.

28. Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein the front sliding member carrier and/or the rear sliding member carrier have a U-shaped cross-section, viewed transversely to the guiding direction of the carriage, and the sliding member carrier and its sliding member, being mutually rotated by 90°, positively engage each other, in particular, over their entire surfaces.

29. Tail-lift according to claim 26, wherein the two sliding member carriers and/or their sliding members each have the same design.